

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace Claims 1, 13 and 15 with the following:

- B1
1. (Amended) A method comprising the steps of:
    - (a) adding sulfur, or another halogenation suppressant, or mixtures thereof to a composition containing dioxin precursors,
    - (b) incinerating the composition containing dioxin precursors, thereby forming a gaseous medium,
    - (c) reducing heat in the gaseous medium formed in step (b),
    - (d) removing ash from the gaseous medium,
    - (e) adding an adsorbent to the gaseous medium formed in step (d), and
    - (f) removing acid gases and particulates from the gaseous medium formed in step (e).

- B2
13. (Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the chlorinated solvents are selected from the group consisting of dichloromethane, monochlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene, 1,1-dichloroethane and methylene chloride.

- B3
15. (Amended) A method comprising the steps of:
    - (a) adding sulfur, or another halogenation suppressant, or mixtures thereof to a composition containing dioxin precursors that comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of (i) a wastewater treatment sludge (ii) solid organic residues and (iii) a mixture of halogenated solvents,
    - (b) incinerating the composition containing dioxin precursors at a temperature that is at least about 800°C, thereby forming a gaseous medium,
    - (c) reducing heat in the gaseous medium formed in step (b) to a temperature that is below about 200°C,
    - (d) removing ash from the gaseous medium,

- b3
- (e) adding activated powder to the gas ous medium formed in step (d) at a rate that is at least about 0.0007 kg, per about 100 m<sup>3</sup> of gaseous medium,
  - (f) removing acid gases and particulates from the gaseous medium formed in step (e).
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